

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously Presented) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 95% identical to the full-length amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the isolated polypeptide is capable of eliciting an immune response to *Streptococcus pyogenes*, and wherein the isolated polypeptide is capable of eliciting an antibody that specifically binds to a BVH-P7 polypeptide that consists of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

55. (Previously Presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 54 comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

56. (Previously Presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 55 from which the N-terminal methionine residue is deleted.

57. (Previously Presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 55 which lacks the signal peptide consisting of the amino acid sequence at positions 1-21 of SEQ ID NO:2.

58. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of any one of claims 54-57 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent or adjuvant.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 58 wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a vaccine.